

Map 8: AVOCH BAY TO FORTROSE

Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology: Upper Old Red Sandstone continues as the basement geology. At Rosemarkie, boulder and undifferentiated drift deposits dominate the cover lithologies in the hinterland. The dominant geomorphic feature within this unit is the cusped foreland of Chanory Ness and Point. This feature is postulated to have formed by the movement of material in a south westerly direction along the coastline of the Inner Moray Firth and in a westerly direction of the Beaulay Firth coastline (SMP 1996). From Avoch to Fortrose the shore frontage is developed with a coastal edge consisting of a low plateau of erodable marine deposits and alluvium. Chanory Ness has dune cover and stepped shingle beaches. From the Ness to Rosemarkie Bay the predominant beach cover is sand.

Erosion class: South of Avoch fishing village a vertical concrete sea wall protects the shore road. Immediately south of the harbour and at the mouth of a small stream gabion basket protection has been utilised. Seawalls defend the road between Avoch and Fortrose. Rock armour protects the coast further towards Fortrose. The degraded condition of short stretches of seawall and timber groyne systems indicate minor backshore erosion taking place in the area. Chanory Ness is subjected to a relatively low fetch to the south west and has been undergoing wave induced erosion over a number of years (SMP 1996). In the short term, a greater part of the ness is stable or accreting with high banks of vegetated shingle. Chanory Point is accreting outwards but is at the same time eroding according to the nature of seasonal tide conditions.

Built Heritage and Archaeology: The built heritage in the western part of this area is the village of Avoch, which contains a number of maritime related buildings such as the ship chandler's and warehouse. The foreshore remains include the Telford designed Avoch harbour, built between 1803-21 and a modern slipway to the south west of the village, built to access the current fish farms in Avoch Bay. The eastern part of the area consists of the Fortrose village including a Telford designed harbour complex (1803-21).

Map 8: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

1. South of WOOD HILL

NH 697 533

0.5km

Exposed rock platform and sand

Low cliff (>10m)

Raised beach and marine deposits

This coastal unit is fairly irregular with exposed rock platforms at the mouth of Munlochy Bay. Raised beach deposits cover the wooded hinterland.

2. WOOD HILL to AVOCH HARBOUR

NH 701 547

2.7km

Mainly mud and sand

Cliff (10m)

Raised beach and marine deposits/freshwater alluvium

Towards Avoch Bay mud and shingle are exposed at the LWM. Flood defence works defends the coastal edge. Marine deposits dominate the hinterland and alluvium derived from Avoch Burn.

3. AVOCH HARBOUR

NH 713 557

0.5km

Mainly shingle and mud

Cliff (<10m)

Raised beach and marine deposits

This unit consists of a shingle and mud foreshore with a near shore MLWS mark. Groynes form part of flood defence works along this stretch of coast. Freshwater alluvium is present.

4. AVOCH HARBOUR to FORTROSE

NH 712556

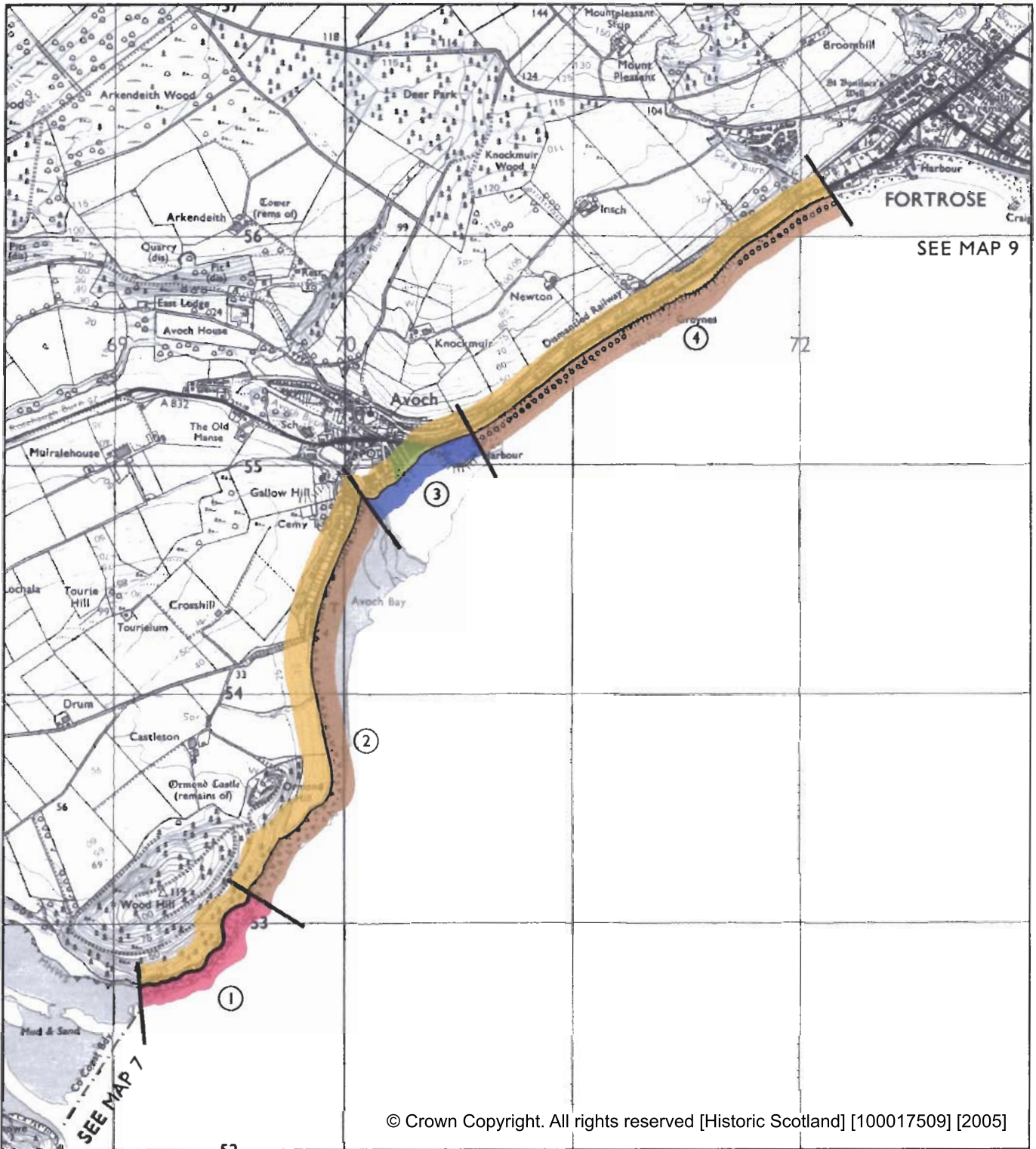
1.8km

Mainly single and mud

Cliff (<10m)

Raised beach and marine deposits

The hinterland is dominated by marine deposits, which support woodland. The foreshore is a mixture of mud and shingle with shore protection. This section of coastline is exposed.



MAP 8: WOOD HILL TO FORTROSE

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 69-73/52-57

HINTERLAND GEOLOGY AND FORESHORE GEOMORPHOLOGY

Assessment date: 10 September 1998

Hinterland:

- Drift, boulder clay
- Drift, boulder clay over visible rock
- Raised beach and marine deposits
- Blown sand
- Glacial sand and gravel
- Alluvium

Coast edge:

- Low edge (< 5m tall)
- Cliff over 5m tall
- Man made barrier
- Shingle/storm bank
- Human disturbance

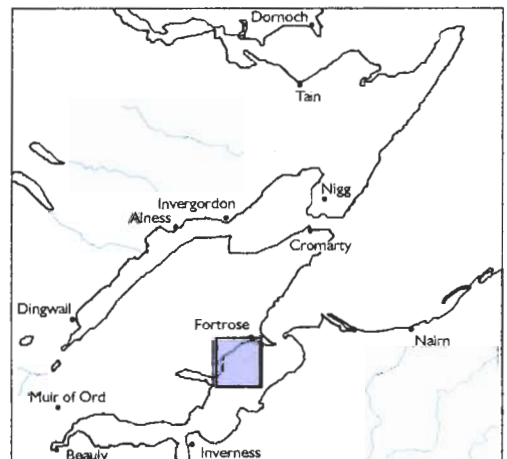
Foreshore:

- Mainly rock platform
- Mainly sand
- Mainly alluvial/marine mud
- Marsh

1:25 000

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series Sheet 160

© Crown Copyright Reserved



MAP 8: EROSION

1. South of WOOD HILL to ORMOND HILL
NH 695 530

1.4km

Eroding or stable

Exposed rock platform of Upper Old Red
Sandstone is eroding albeit slowly.

2. ORMOND HILL to start of AVOCH BAY
NH 699540

0.5km

Stable

Sandy beach with stable conditions.

3. AVOCH BAY

NH 699 540

0.5km

Stable

Small sheltered bay defended by sea walls. The
shore is stable owing to sediment supply via
longshore drift leading to build up of sand and
shingle. In parts this material is stabilised by
vegetation. Sand is exposed at the LWM.

4. AVOCH HARBOUR

NH 702549

0.2km

Stable

The sandy beach is protected by sea walls and is
stable.

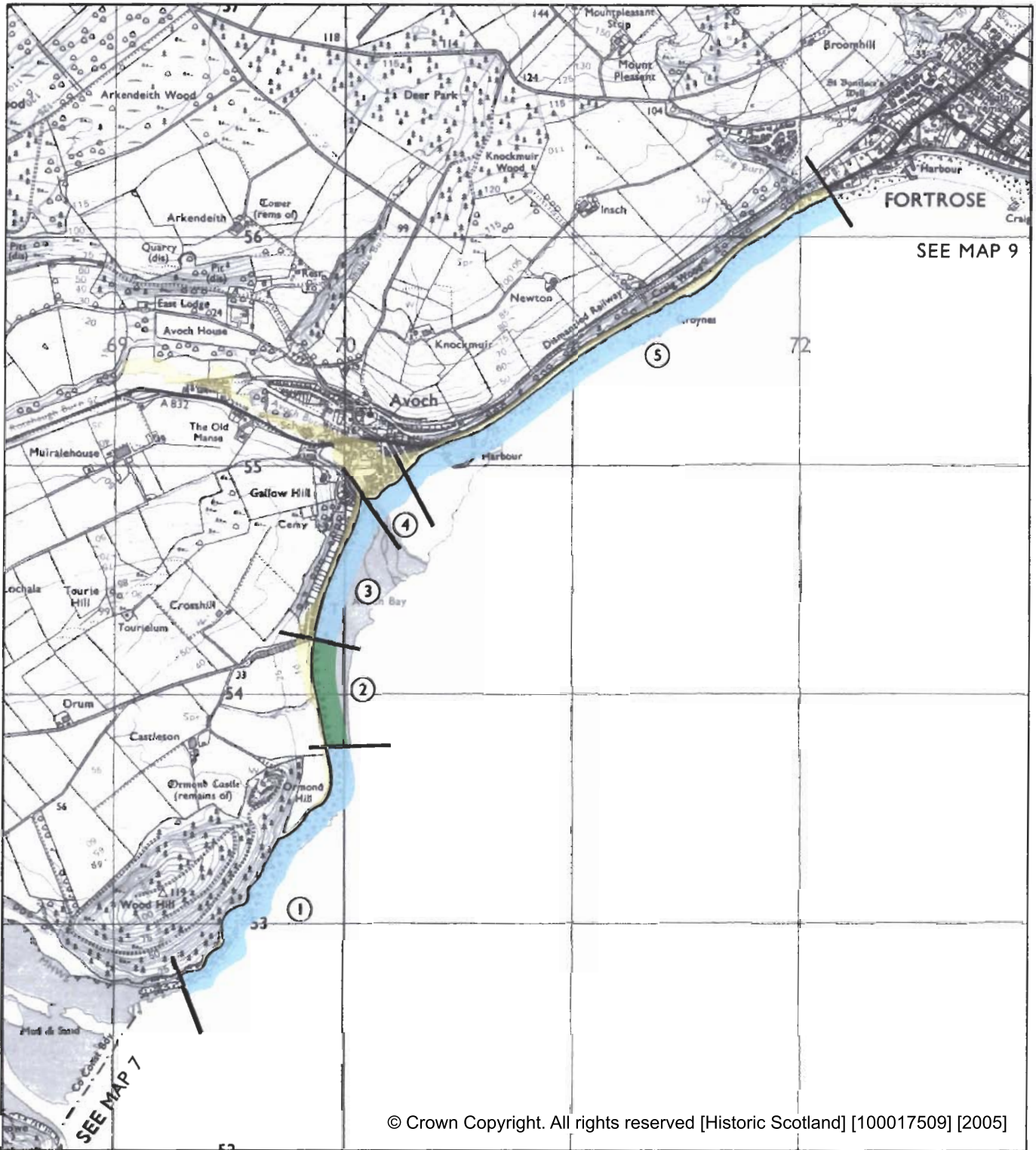
5. AVOCH to south west of FORTROSE

NH 715 557

2.4km

Stable

Rubble sea-defences and groynes on the shore.
Shingle banks are stabilised by vegetation. Stable
conditions prevail. A c.50m section of erosion
has occurred on the neck of the pier at Avoch and
is now defended by rubble. Turf behind has been
scoured by wave action. On the whole conditions
are stable.



MAP 8: WOOD HILL TO FORTROSE

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 69-73/52-57

1:25 000

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series

Sheet 160

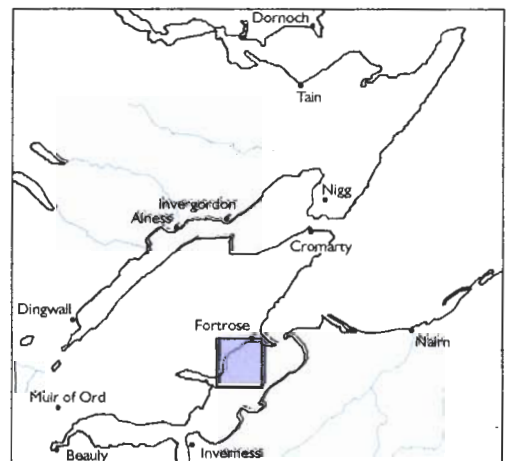
© Crown Copyright Reserved

EROSION CLASS

Assessment date: 10 September 1998

Key:

- Definitely accreting
- Accreting or stable
- Stable
- Eroding or stable
- Definitely eroding
- Both accreting and eroding
- No access
- Land below 10m



MAP 8: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore

NH 6989 5427
AVOCH
Slipway
20th century AD
Poor
Nil

NH 7030 5495
AVOCH
Metal piles
20th century AD
Good
Nil

NH75NW 72 - Listed B

NH 7050 5501
AVOCH
Harbour
19th century AD; 1803-21
Good
Nil

NH7156 5574

CRAIG WOOD
Groynes
20th century AD
Fair
Nil

Sites in the Hinterland

NH 6995 5363
ORMOND HILL
Boat house
20th century AD
Fair
Nil

NH75SW 4-22, 4 & 7-19 Listed B

NH 700 547 - 702 549
AVOCH
Houses; bridge; conservation area
20th century AD
Good
Nil

NH75NW 41, 45-49, 77-78. 41, 45, 49, & 78 Listed B

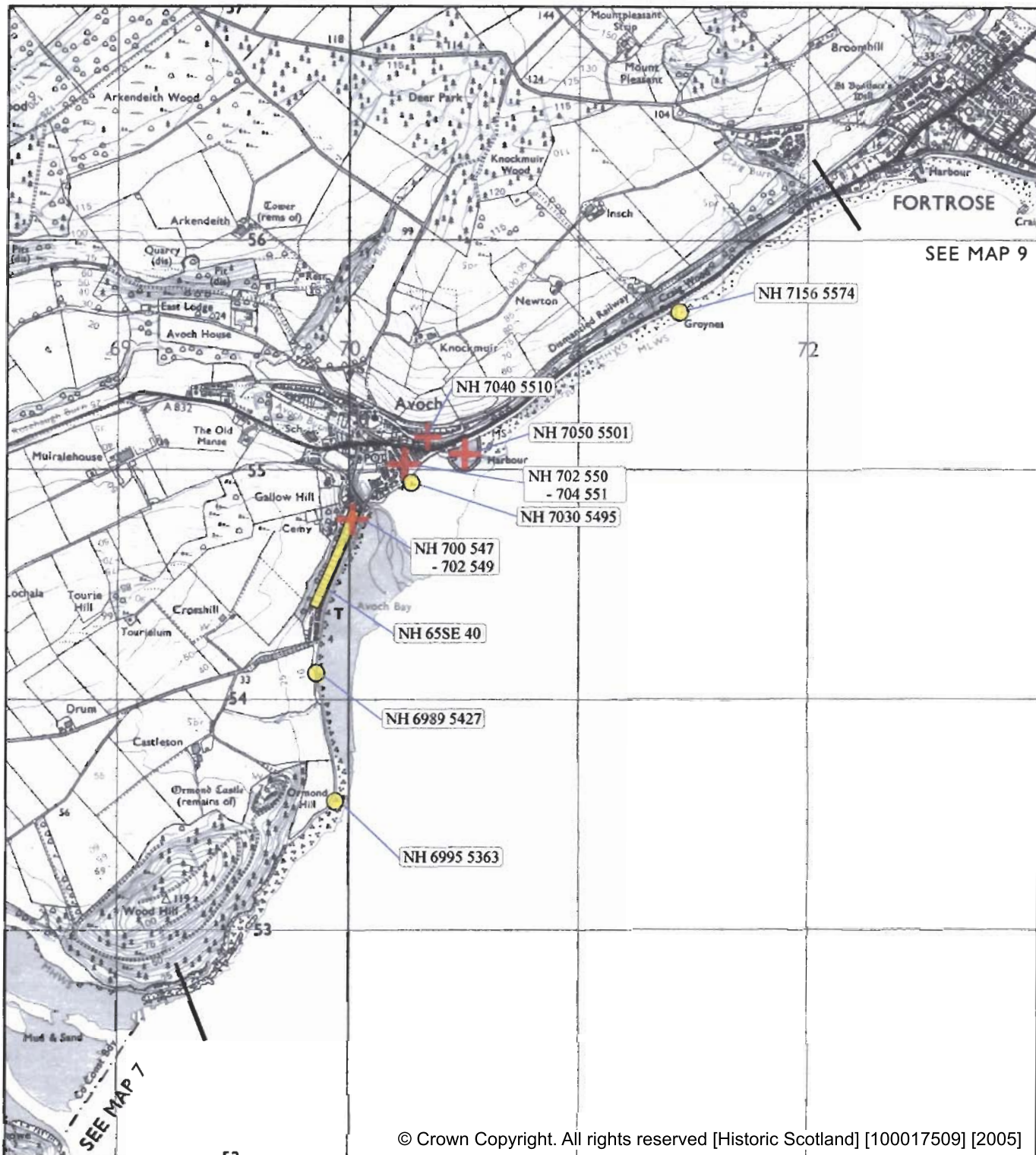
NH 702 550 - 704 551
AVOCH
Various residential houses
20th century AD
Good
Nil

NH75NW 71 - Listed C

NH 7040 5510
AVOCH
Commerical warehouse; shipchandler's
20th century AD
Good
Nil

NH65SE 40

NH 6990 5444
AVOCH, Ormond Terrace
Buildings
19th century AD
Good
Nil



MAP 8: WOOD HILL TO FORTROSE

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 69-73/52-57

BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Assessment period: September 1998

Key:

Protected Ancient Monument,
 or area of designated wreck

Listed Historic Building

Monument formally proposed by
Historic Scotland for scheduling,
or wreck for designation

Other known Ancient Monuments,
or Undesignated wreck

Designated Landscape

Insufficient information;
more work needed

Probably archaeologically sterile

1:25 000

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series
Sheet 160

© Crown Copyright Reserved

